

South Dakota LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

News Release

May 19, 2000

RED MEAT PRODUCTION DOWN FROM LAST YEAR

SIOUX FALLS, May 19, 2000 -- Commercial red meat production for South Dakota totaled 67.5 million pounds during April. This was down 20 percent from last month and down 21 percent from one year ago, according to USDA's South Dakota Ag Statistics Service. For April, sheep and lamb production was up from a year ago, while pork, and beef production were down.

Commercial hog slaughter for South Dakota totaled 274,900 head during April compared to 354,700 head last year. Average live weight was 257 pounds, which was down 4 pounds from 1999. Federally inspected slaughter totaled 273,900 head, which was comprised of 10,600 sows, and 263,300 barrows and gilts.

Commercial cattle slaughter for South Dakota totaled 20,300 head during April compared to 23,700 head last year. Average live weight was 1,408 pounds, which was up 17 pounds from 1999. Federally inspected slaughter totaled 18,400 head, which was comprised of 1,900 steers, 1,300 heifers, 12,700 cows, and 2,600 bulls.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter for South Dakota totaled 1,000 head during April compared to 900 head last year. Average live weight was 116 pounds, which was down 10 pounds from last year. Federally inspected slaughter totaled 900 head of lambs and yearlings.

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